[English]

Smuggling of Valuable Timber

3029. SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that 15 Wagon-load of valuable timber booked for Kongkoria railway station in Gujarat from Bhairabi railway station in Mizoram reached Badarpur railway junction of Karimganj District on transit;

(b) whether the timber with an approximate value of Rs. 5 crores is being smuggled out from Hailakundi; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check this menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected from the concerned State Government and will be laid on the table of the House.

Unauthorised Bangladeshi Migrants

3030. SHRI B.L. SHARMA 'PREM' : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of unauthorised Bangladeshi Migrants so far repatriated to Bangladesh, year-wise;

(b) the number of unauthorised Bangladeshi migrants still staying in India, State-wise;

(c) the number of Bangladeshi migrants who enrolled themselves as ration-card holders and voters; and

(d) the plans and the measures being taken for repatriation of the migrants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d). The interception/apprehension of unauthorised Bangladeshi migrants and their repatriation to Bangladesh is an on-going process. The international border of India with Bangladesh runs in a crisis cross manner through populated areas, rivers, swamps, forests and difficult hilly terrain. The population on both sides of the border comes from the same ethnic and linguistic stock. It is, therefore, difficult to give the exact number of infiltrators who have come to India and settled down. The Government is, however, alive to the problem or infiltration and has taken several measures to check the same. These include, inter alia, raising of additional battalions under the expansion plan of the Border Security Force, reducing gaps between border outposts, intensification of patrolling, raising of riverine water wing of the BSF, construction of border roads and fencing and provision of night vision devices. In addition, there are scheme such as the Prevention of Infiltration of Foreigners (PIF) and Mobile Task Force (MTF) which are being implemented by identified States to detect infiltrators. Standing instructions have been issued to the State Governments and the UT Administrations for detection and deportation of infiltrators.

[Translation]

Latest Signal Technique in Delhi

3031. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are contemplating any proposal for using the latest signal technique to control the traffic in the National Capital Region of Delhi;

(b) if so, the main features thereof;

(c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and

(d) the estimated amount likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d). The Delhi Traffic Police has installed two 'Fully Vehicle Actuated Road Traffic Signal Controllers' which sense the traffic through detectors installed at appropriate positions. These detectors provide current traffic information to the controllers. The controllers essentially extend the green signal time corresponding to the traffic volume as sensed by the detectors but within the maximum green signal time. The maximum and minimum green signal time are user programmable.

The Delhi Traffic Police has another proposal for using the latest signal techniques viz. 'Computerised Area Traffic Control System'. The main features of this system are that it is fully responsive to the traffic flow conditions, adapts in rear time to traffic changes and is suitable for implementation on all types of urban roads, grids, networks and arterials. It is proposed to implement this system during the current financial year at an estimated cost of Rs. 8.47 crores.

[English]

Booking of Luggage

3032. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Eastern Railway have decided not to book luggage in small quantities;

(b) if so, the loss incurred by the Eastern Railway as a result thereof;

(c) whether the Government are considering to review the decision; and